

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT	Miscellaneous Military Information	DATE DISTR.	27 July 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

Order of Battle

## 1. The information I have on O/B follows:

## a. The only Czech Army unit about which I know is:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Subordination</u>	<u>Strength</u>	<u>Location</u>
u/i Tk Unit	Unknown	Unknown	Svatoplukovy Kasarny Brno. / See Annex A/

I saw 15 or 20 tanks of unknown origin going through the streets of Brno. I cannot give any information regarding these tanks, as to size, type or markings. However, judging from the route on which the tanks were traveling, I believe the tank unit was stationed in the Svatooplukovy Kasarny in Brno.

b. I heard the Czech Army, that an artillery garrison was located at Topolcany / 4834N-1811E/.  
one of the batteries located there.

Military Equipment

2. I was told by that his unit was selling their horses to civilians and were receiving trucks in return. I do not know the type and model of trucks.

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STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI		AEC							
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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3. In the [ ] the Czech Army requisitioned one heavy truck, model unknown to me, for fall maneuvers from MEZ Zidenice. Rental costs for the use of the truck were defrayed by the government. I also heard [ ] that privately owned motorcycles were being requisitioned by the Army for the same purpose.

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### Reserve Training and Maneuvers

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6. I heard [ ] that army reservists were recalled for six weeks annual training in 1952.

### Manpower

7. I have no knowledge of mobilization or demobilization in the Czech Army. In 1952, I heard that the duration of service in the Czech Army was two years.

### Soviet Mission

8. I saw two Soviet officers in Prague in [ ] I do not know their rank or duties. According to hearsay information, a Soviet Headquarters was located in Prague/Bohnice.

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### Purges

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9. [ ] a former major in the Czech Army, was dismissed from the service in 1948 for not becoming a member of the Communist Party. [ ] a former colonel of the general staff, was dismissed from the service in 1948. [ ] that Brig. Gen. Antonin SKRIVANEK was dismissed in 1949 for similar reasons. [ ] Note: Brig. Gen. Antonin SKRIVANEK is listed in the Czech OB Handbook, [ ] as CG of an Arty. Div. located in Kolin /5002N-1512E/

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### Morale

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10. [ ] I was told [ ] that an unidentified garrison in Eastern Slovakia shot their political officers, took all the equipment assigned to them, and deserted to the Tatra Mountains in Slovakia. It was common knowledge that all military personnel were dissatisfied with army life, for such reasons as limited pass policy, insufficiency of food, and too much political indoctrination.

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### Anti-Aircraft Defense

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11. [ ] I saw an anti-aircraft position located in Prague /See Annex B/. The position was located on a 200 x 50 m. plot of land. The land was covered with low bushes and trees and was approximately 400 m. northeast of Hradcany Castle. Hradcany Castle is the residence of the President of Czechoslovakia. I observed searchlights and about six AA guns in the area. I do not know the type and model of the searchlights or the type and caliber of the AA guns because both were covered with tarpaulins. The area was guarded by Czech soldiers, branch of service unknown to me. I did not see any radar near or in the vicinity of this area.

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- 25X1 12. [ ] I was told [ ] that the admin- 25X1  
istration of MEZ Zidenice in Brno was ordered by the government  
(department unknown) to procure and store blackout cloth material  
costing 1,000,000 Czechoslovak crowns.
13. Air raid sirens, installed during World War II, were never dis-  
mantled and were being used throughout Czechoslovakia for signaling  
the beginning and end of work shifts. 25X1

Production of Army Materiel

- 25X1 14. In respect to production of tanks and tank parts, I heard [ ]  
[ ] that in 1950 a new tank plant was built in  
Turciansky Svätý Martin /4904N-1856E/, Slovakia. The plant was  
called Joseph W. Stalin Plant. (Zavody Josefa W. Stalina). I do 25X1  
not have any knowledge as to the type, model and amount of produc- 25X1  
tion of tanks. I also heard that the Svit Plant in Gottwaldov  
manufactured and installed rubber treading for tank tracks. [ ]  
[ ] dynamotors which were to be used in army  
radios. I do not know the size and models of the dynamotors, but 25X1  
I know that they were to go into production in April 1953.

Communist Youth Movements

15. Persons between the ages of 16 and 27 were admitted to the Czecho-  
slovak Youth Association (Ceskoslovensky svaz mladeze - CSM), and  
unless a person was a member of this organization, he could not  
attend institutes of higher education. The CSM strictly enforced  
the policies of the Communist Party and if any special labor pro-  
jects came up, such as working in the fields, building bridges,  
etc., the members immediately answered the call.

## Annexes:

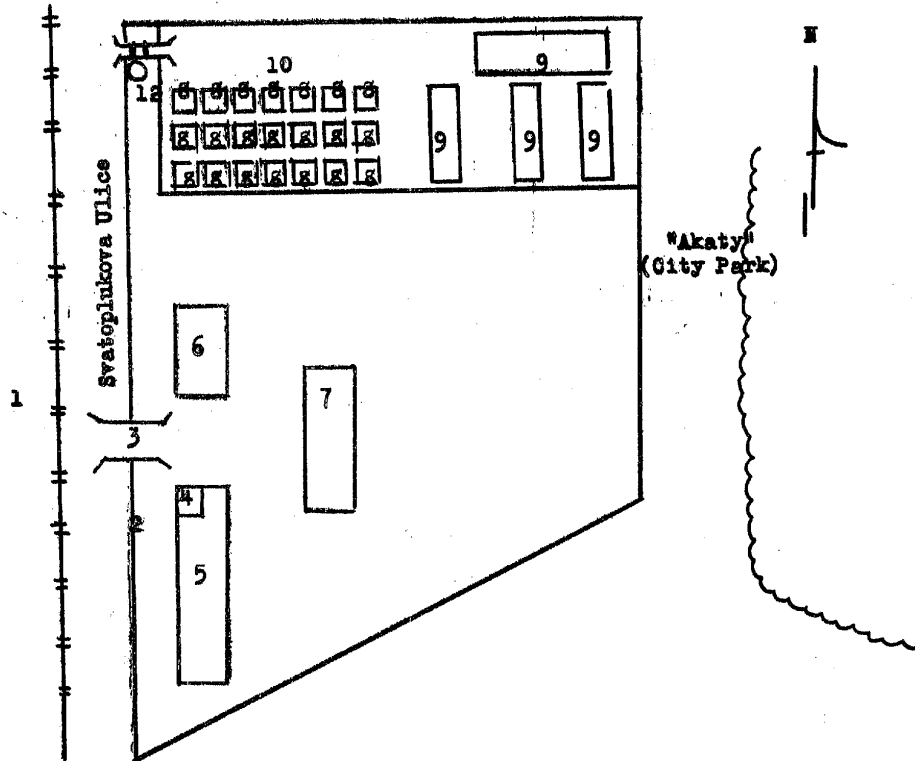
- A. Military Installation in Brno "Svatoplukove Kasarny"
- B. Anti-Aircraft Gun Emplacement, near Hradcany Castle, Prague
- C. Czech Officer Personality

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ANNEX A:

Military Installations in Brno "Svatoplukove Kasarny"; Memory Sketch



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## ANNEX A: (CONT'D)

## LEGEND

1. Double track street car line
2. Brick Wall: about 2½ m. high, surrounding the entire installation
3. Main Gate
4. Guard and Guard House
5. EM Barracks: two-story, gray brick building, red tiled roof, approximately 250 x 15 m.
6. EM Barracks: two-story, gray brick building, red tiled roof, approximately 100 x 15 m.
7. U/I Building: Two-story, gray brick, red tiled roof, dimensions unknown. [ ] believed this was the Hq. building.
8. Two or three rows of family type, one-story brick houses, about seven homes in each row, dimensions unknown
9. Several (exact number unknown) wooden low-type buildings. [ ] believed they were garages. 25X1A
10. Parking Area: in the area was parked a large number of trucks, (about 60-100) types and models unknown. About half of the trucks were semies and tractor-trucks with six wheels. The four rear wheels were double-tire type. [ ] saw no trailers for the tractor-trucks. 25X1A
11. Side Gate
12. Sentry Box

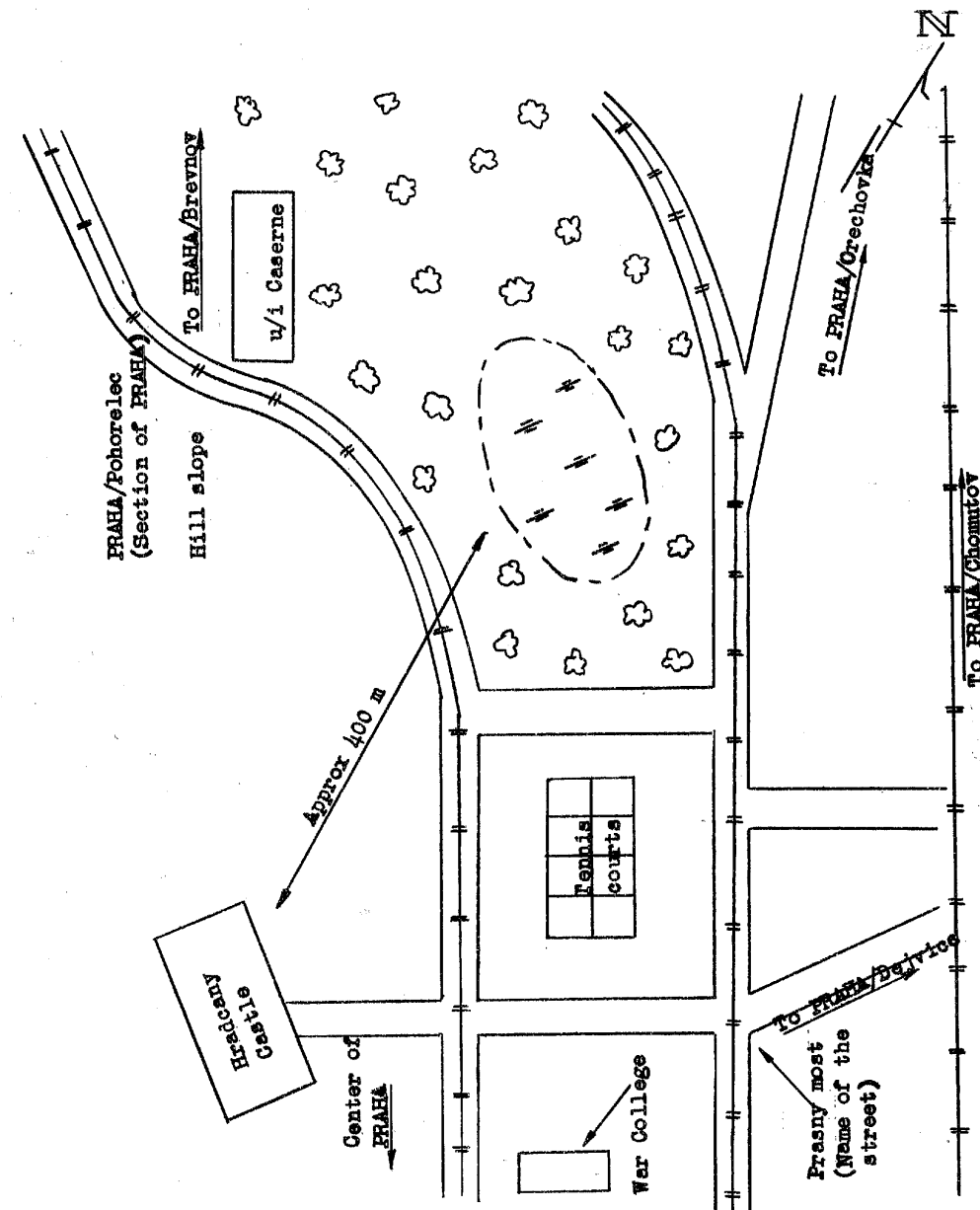
NOTE: This installation was located in the north-eastern section of the city of Brno, in a section named "Zidenice" (Schimitz). [ ] often passed by the "Svatoplukove Barracks" while riding the street car, which passed in front of the installation. Last time he passed the installation was in [ ] 25X1

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ANNEX B

Anti-Aircraft Gun Emplacement, near Hradcany Castle, PRAHA (5005N-1428E)



Map Ref:

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